

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00365 211107Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03 DHA-02 ARA-06

/081 W

-----211111Z 022220 /17

R 211031Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4171

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0365

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, LY

SUBJ: PEOPLE'S POWER - FUTURE PROBLEMS

1. THREE WEEKS AFTER THE MOMENTOUS EVENTS IN SEBHA WE SEE THE DIM OUTLINES OF PROBLEMS THAT QADHAFI MAY HAVE CREATED FOR HIMSELF IN ESTABLISHING PEOPLE'S POWER. REACTIONS, BOTH DIRECT AND INDIRECT FROM A CROSS SECTION OF LIBYANS, INDICATE THAT FOLLOWING EARLY EUPHORIA BY SOME ELEMENTS OF THE POPULATION CONSIDERABLE CONCERN OVER THE STATUS OF ISLAM IS DEVELOPING.

2. PREVIOUS MESSAGES HAVE REPORTED THE RESISTANCE TO CHANGING LIBYA'S NAME BASED ON THE CONCERN OF THE PEOPLE THAT THE ISLAMIC NATURE OF LIBYAN SOCIETY MIGHT BE JEOPARDIZED. THE EXTENSIVE VISIT AND GREAT PUBLICITY GIVEN TO THE VISIT OF FIDEL CASTRO HAS ACCENTUATED THESE CONCERNS SINCE MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE CASTRO VISIT TENDED TO EMPHASIZE HIS PRONOUNCEMENTS ON LIBYAN SOCIALISM.

3. ALSO APPREHENSION OVER THE SECURPIY OF ISLAM WAS INCREASED BY QADHAFI'S ASSERTION (MAR 7 SPEECH)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00365 211107Z

THAT LEARNED RELIGIOUS AUTHORITIES NEED NOT BE HEEDED. HE CONTENDED THAT THE KORAN WAS OPEN TO ALL AND THAT THE SO-CALLED WISE MEN OF ISLAM WERE REACTIONARIES IN DISGUISE. HE SUGGESTED HE WAS PERHAPS MORE QUALIFIED TO INTERPRET THE DUATHOLY BOOK. IN A HITHERTO UNRELEASED PORTION OF HIS MARCH 7 SPEECH QADHAFI IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE HOLY KORAN WAS BROAD

ENOUGH TO ENCOMPASS THE PHILOSOPHIES OF BOTH COMMUNISM
AND SOCIALISM AND HENCE THE SOCIALIST NATURE OF LIBYA
WAS FULLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ISLAMIC TRADITIONS.

4. LIBYANS ARE FUNDAMENTALLY VERY CONSERVATIVE BOTH
SOCIALLY AND RELIGIOUSLY. QADHAFI'S EFFORT TO
MODERNIZE SOCIETY AND MOVE IT ALONG PROGRESSIVE
LINES MAY WELL FIND GROWING RESISTANCE FROM THIS
BASICALLY CONSERVATIVE SOCIETY. CERTAINLY HIS RECENT
ASSERTIONS WILL PROVIDE FUTURE OPPONENTS WITH A
HIGHLY EXPLOITABLE SET OF ISSUES.
CARLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TRIPOL00365
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770096-0152
Format: TEL
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770337/aaaabggq.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5998d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3041718
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PEOPLE'S POWER - FUTURE PROBLEMS
TAGS: PINT, LY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5998d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009